

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 EPG-02 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00

PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-09

EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 ABF-01 /137 W

-----021843Z 040777 /44

O R 021730Z JUN 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7885

INFO USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS GENEVA 4361

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, GATT, ITC

SUBJ: GATT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING, JUNE 1

REF: (A) GENEVA 4155, (B) STATE 123992, (C) LYNN/KLEIN TELCON 6/1

1. GATT BUDGET COMMITTEE AT MEETING JUNE 1 WAS UNABLE TO CONCLUDE CONSIDERATION OF ITC BUDGET REQUEST SINCE SEVERAL DELEGATIONS STILL UNINSTRUCTED. COMMITTEE TO MEET AGAIN JUNE 6 TO COMPLETE ITS WORK. REQUEST FURTHER DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE BY COB WASHINGTON JUNE 3 IN LIGHT OF FOLLOWING SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

2. PROPOSED \$1,015,600 INCREASE COMPOSED OF FOLLOWING ELEMENTS:  
COST INCREASE IN MAINTAINING CURRENT PROGRAM AT 1977 RATES-  
\$267,600; MAINTENANCE OF SAME PROGRAM AT 1978-1979 RATES -  
\$287,000 (USING STANDARD THREE PERCENT INFLATION FIGURE ESTABLISHED BY UN HEADQUARTERS NEW YORK FOR GENEVA-BASED SECRETARIAT UNITS, AND INCLUDING INCREASED RENTAL COSTS FOR NEW PREMISES AS OF JANUARY 1979); ONE-TIME EXPENDITURE ASSOCIATED WITH RELOCATION-  
\$226,000 (I.E., \$196,000 FOR FURNITURE/EQUIPMENT AND \$30,000  
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FOR MOVING EXPENSES); AND "REAL GROWTH" (NEW POSTS AND COMMON STAFF COSTS) - \$235,000.

3. DELEGATIONS GENERALLY SUPPORTED THE PROPOSAL TO LEASE THE NEW BUILDING. THE COMMITTEE WAS ASSURED THAT COST FIGURES WERE FIRM, INCLUDING THE ONE-TIME PROCUREMENT AND RELOCATION COSTS (WHICH WE ASSUME ALSO ACCEPTABLE TO U.S.).

4. ON PROPOSED NEW POSTS, UN SYG REP INFORMED COMMITTEE THAT SINCE PROPOSED INCREASE WOULD AMOUNT TO 5.1 PERCENT REAL GROWTH IN BUDGET AND THUS EXCEED THREE PERCENT GUIDELINE ISSUED TO CENTER BY UN BUDGET AUTHORITIES, UN SYG WOULD NOT SUPPORT ESTABLISHMENT OF ONE OF THREE P-4 POSTS AND WOULD SO INFORM ACABQ. ELIMINATION OF ONE P-4 POSITION WOULD BRING INCREASE IN REAL GROWTH DOWN TO 3.3 PERCENT. GATT OFFICIAL WHO DISCUSSED QUESTION WITH UN SECRETARIAT IN NEW YORK INDICATED LATTER'S POSITION IS FORMAL ONE IN DEFENSE OF UN BUDGET GUIDELINE. HE, CENTER DIRECTOR AND SWEDEN POINTED OUT THAT GUIDELINES WERE OBVIOUSLY AIMED PRIMARILY AT LARGER UN UNITS. GATT SECRETARIAT SAID THAT FOR ITS PART IT FULLY SUPPORTS ITC REQUESTS AND EXPRESSED HOPE BUDGET COMMITTEE WILL MAKE ITS DECISION ON MERITS OF PROPOSALS.

5. ALTHOUGH UNINSTRUCTED DELS (INCLUDING US) RESERVED POSITIONS ON NEW PERSONNEL SLOTS, GENERAL REACTION OF COMMITTEE APPEARED FAVORABLE. SOME (SWEDEN, UK) NOTED THAT PROPOSALS IN LINE WITH JAG RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THEY HAD SUPPORTED, AND LDC'S (NIGERIA, ZAIRE) STRESSED IMPORTANCE THEY ATTACH TO SUPPORTING CENTER'S CAPACITY TO ASSIST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES EFFECTIVELY. BASED ON THESE PRELIMINARY REACTIONS USDEL BELIEVES CENTER'S REQUEST WILL HAVE VERY BROAD SUPPORT AT RESUMED MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON JUNE 6, ALTHOUGH A NUMBER OF REFERENCES WERE MADE TO FACT THAT INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED BY GATT BUDGET COMMITTEE DELS NOT ALWAYS CONSISTENT WITH THOSE SENT BY CAPITALS TO UNCLASSIFIED

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NEW YORK.

6. WE RECOGNIZE STRONG U.S. INTEREST IN SUPPORTING UN SYG'S EFFORTS TO KEEP BUDGET INCREASES WITHIN GUIDELINES. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF FOREGOING, AND VIEWS EXPRESSED PARA 5 REF A, WE RECOMMEND USDEL BE PERMITTED TO JOIN CONSENSUS TO SUPPORT ESTABLISHMENT OF ALL PROPOSED POSITIONS, IF STRONG CONSENSUS ON THIS POINT EMERGES. THERE IS ALSO POSSIBILITY THAT COMMITTEE MIGHT AGREE TO REDUCTIONS IN LOWER PRIORITY AREAS OF BUDGET WHICH COULD BRING OVERALL INCREASE NEARER TO THREE PERCENT GUIDELINE, BUT AGREE TO PROPOSED PERSONNEL INCREASES. DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE ALSO REQUESTED IN CASE "TRADE-OFF" IDEA GAINS SUPPORT IN COMMITTEE.

7. COMMITTEE WAS BRIEFED ON THE STATUS OF WORK ON GATT'S NEW BUILDING (I.E., OLD ILO BUILDING). THE PRESENT PROJECTED COST OF THE RESTORATION IS 5.97 MILLION SWISS FRANCS, OR AN INCREASE OF 19 PERCENT OVER THE ORIGINAL ESTIMATE OF 5.0 MILLION. WE WERE TOLD THIS WAS DUE TO (A) IN-

FLATION, (B) IMPROVEMENTS IN THE TYPE OF EQUIPMENT, FIX-TURES, ETC. THAT ARE BEING USED, AND (C) LAST MINUTE CHANGES IN THE DESIGN AND LAYOUT OF THE CONFERENCE ROOMS.

8. COMMITTEE WAS ALSO GIVEN A BRIEF STATUS REPORT ON THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION G-LEVEL SALARY SURVEY. THE ICSC WILL BEGIN NEXT WEEK TO INTERVIEW SOME 30 FIRMS IN THE GENEVA AREA TO DETERMINE THE COMPENSATION PACKAGE FOR 14 JOBS WHICH ARE COMPARABLE TO G-LEVEL POSITIONS IN THE UN. THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE SURVEY ARE SUPPOSED TO BE READY DURING THE FIRST HALF OF SEPTEMBER. SORENSONT

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